LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 (canceled)

Claim 24 (previously presented): A method for changing electronic information, said method comprising:

a step of inputting first information comprising a plurality of event data;

a step of inputting second information indicative of an information change scheme;

a step of incorporating said second information dispersedly into said first information by changing contents of at least part of the event data on the basis of said second information; and

a step of changing a portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 24 which further comprises a step of incorporating predetermined additional information into said first information.

Claim 26 (previously presented): An electronic information processing device comprising:

a section that inputs first information comprising a plurality of event data;

a section that inputs second information indicative of an information change scheme;

a section that incorporates said second information dispersedly into said first information by changing contents of at least part of the event data on the basis of said second information; and

a section that changes a portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information.

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Claim 27 (previously presented): A machine-readable recording medium containing a program executable by a computer for changing electronic information, said program comprising:

a step of inputting first information comprising a plurality of event data;

a step of inputting second information indicative of an information change scheme;

a step of incorporating said second information dispersedly into said first information by changing contents of at least part of the event data on the basis of said second information; and

a step of changing a portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (previously presented): A method of decoding and reproducing changed electronic information, said method comprising:

a step of receiving changed electronic information to be decoded and reproduced, said changed electronic information being information obtained by changing, in accordance with an information change scheme indicated by second information, first information comprising a plurality of event data, wherein said second information is incorporated dispersedly in said first information by contents of at least part of the event data included in said first information being changed on the basis of said second information, and a portion of said first information, where said second information is not incorporated, has contents changed in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information;

a step of reproducing, from the inputted changed electronic information, said second information dispersedly incorporated in said first information; and

a step of decoding the portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, on the basis of said second information decoded by said step of decoding, to thereby reproduce said first information.

Claim 30 (previously presented): A device for decoding and reproducing changed electronic information, said device comprising:

a section that receives changed electronic information to be decoded and reproduced, said changed electronic information being information obtained by changing, in accordance with an information change scheme indicated by second information, first information comprising a plurality of event data, wherein said second information is incorporated dispersedly in said first information by contents of at least part of the event data included in said first information being changed on the basis of said second information, and a portion of said first information, where said second information is not incorporated, has contents changed in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information;

a section that reproduces, from the inputted changed electronic information, said second information dispersedly incorporated in said first information; and

a section that decodes the portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, on the basis of said second information decoded by said step of decoding, to thereby reproduce said first information.

Claim 31 (previously presented): A machine-readable recording medium containing a program executable by a computer for decoding and reproducing changed electronic information, said program comprising:

a step of receiving changed electronic information to be decoded and reproduced, said changed electronic information being information obtained by changing, in accordance with an information change scheme indicated by second information, first information comprising a plurality of event data, wherein said second information is incorporated dispersedly in said first information by contents of at least part of the event data included in said first information being changed on the basis of said second information, and a portion of said first information, where said second information is not incorporated, has contents changed in accordance with the information change scheme indicated by said second information;

a step of reproducing from the inputted changed electronic information, said second information dispersedly incorporated in said first information; and

a step of decoding the portion of said first information, where said second information is not positioned, on the basis of said second information decoded by said step of decoding, to thereby reproduce said first information.

Claim 32 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 24 wherein said plurality of event data of said first information is classified into at least two characteristic groups according to data characteristics thereof, and said second information is incorporated redundantly into said at least two characteristic groups.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 32 wherein said second information is incorporated into each of the characteristic groups in accordance with an algorithm unique to said characteristic group.

Claim 34 (previously presented):   A method as recited in claim 29 wherein said plurality of event data of said first information is classified into at least two characteristic groups according to data characteristics thereof, and said second information is incorporated redundantly into said at least two characteristic groups.

Claims 35 and 36 (canceled)

Claim 37 (previously presented):   A method as recited in claim 24 wherein said first information to be modified is provided in a form of a real-time data stream;

wherein said step of incorporating incorporates the data of second information, in real time, into said first information of the real-time data stream, and said step of changing executes an encrypting procedure, in real time, on said first information of the real-time data stream; and

wherein said method further comprises a step of transmitting to a communication network said first information having said second information incorporated therein and having been encrypted by said step of changing, in a form of the real-time data stream.

Claim 38 (previously presented):   A method as recited in claim 25 wherein said first information is music performance information and said predetermined additional information contains data representative of any one of a text message, still picture, moving picture and sound message.

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Claim 39 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 29 wherein said electronic information to be decoded is transmitted via a communication network, in a form of a real-time data stream;

wherein said step of receiving said electronic information of the real-time data stream transmitted via the communication network;

wherein said step of reproducing reproduces said second information, from said electronic information of the real-time data stream received via the communication network; and

wherein said step of decoding decodes, on the basis of said second information reproduced by said step of reproducing, a portion of said first information where said second information is not incorporated and which is included in said electronic information of the real-time data stream received via the communication network to thereby decode said first information.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 29 wherein predetermined additional information other than said second is incorporated into said first information; and

wherein said method further comprises a step of detecting said predetermined additional information from the first information and a step of displaying said predetermined additional information detected by said step of detecting.

Claim 41 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said first information is music performance information and said predetermined additional information contains data representative of any one of a text message, still picture, moving picture and sound message.

Claims 42-51 (canceled)

Claim 52 (previously presented): A method as recited in claim 24 wherein said first information is music performance information; and

wherein said method further comprises a step of transmitting the music performance information after the modification by said step of changing,

whereby at a receiving end, only portions, other than a particular portion of the music performance information having undergone said step of changing, of the music performance information can be reproduced by every person while the particular portion of the music performance information having undergone the step of changing can be reproduced only by an authorized person.

Claim 53 (canceled)

Claim 54 (previously presented): A system for transmitting information comprising:

a first section that inputs first information comprising a plurality of event data each including two or more parameters;

a second section that inputs second information;

a third section that extracts, from said first information, particular event data including a tone pitch parameter indicative of a tone pitch and extracts a portion of said second information;

a fourth section that creates a new tone pitch parameter using the extracted portion of said second information and the tone pitch parameter of the particular event data and then replaces an original tone pitch parameter of the particular event data with the new tone pitch parameter, to thereby not only incorporate said second information dispersedly into said first information but also encrypt said first information; and

a fifth section that transmits to a communication network the encrypted first information having said second information dispersedly incorporated therein.

Claim 55 (previously presented): A system for decoding and reproducing ~~main~~ encrypted electronic information, said system comprising:

a section that inputs encrypted electronic information to be decoded and reproduced, the encrypted electronic information being information obtained by encrypting, in accordance with a predetermined encrypting algorithm, first information comprising a plurality of event data each including two or more parameters, wherein a second information is not only incorporated dispersedly in said first information but also encrypts it, by contents of a tone pitch parameter in a particular one of the event data included in said first information being changed in accordance with the predetermined encrypting algorithm and using said second information;

a section that extracts, from the inputted encrypted electronic information, the particular event data in said first information; and

a decoder section that decodes an original tone pitch parameter, from the changed tone pitch parameter in the extracted particular event data, in accordance with the predetermined encrypting algorithm and thereby extracts said second information, whereby said first information and said second information is reproduced separately.

Claim 56 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 55 which further comprises a section that displays said second information reproduced by said decoder section.

Claim 57 (previously presented): A machine-readable recording medium containing a program executable by a computer for transmitting information, said program comprising:

a first step of inputting first information comprising a plurality of event data each including two or more parameters;

a second step of inputting second information;

a third step of extracting, from said first information, particular event data including a tone pitch parameter indicative of a tone pitch and extracts a portion of said information;

a fourth step of creating a new tone pitch parameter using the extracted portion of said second information and the tone pitch parameter of the particular event data and then replacing an original tone pitch parameter of the particular event data with the new tone pitch parameter, to thereby not only incorporated said second information dispersedly into said first information but also encrypt said first information; and

a fifth step of transmitting to a communication network the encrypted first information having said second information dispersedly incorporated therein.

Claim 58 (previously presented): A machine-readable recording medium containing a program executable by a computer for decoding and reproducing encrypted electronic information, said program comprising the steps of:

inputting encrypted electronic information to be decoded and reproduced, the encrypted electronic information being information obtained by encrypting, in accordance with a predetermined encrypting algorithm, first information comprising a plurality of event data each including two or more parameters, wherein a second information is not only incorporated dispersedly in said first information but also encrypts it, by contents of a tone pitch parameter in a particular one of the event data included in said first information being changed in accordance with the predetermined encrypting algorithm and using said second information;

extracting, from the inputted encrypted electronic information, the particular event data in said first information; and

decoding an original tone pitch parameter, from the changed tone pitch parameter in the extracted particular event data, in accordance with the predetermined encrypting algorithm and thereby extracts said second information, whereby said first information and said second information is reproduced separately.

Claim 59 (canceled)